

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SSC-01 DRC-01 /135 W

----- 017744

R 031120Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2747

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLA'S PROVISION GOVERNMENT TAKES SHAPE - SLOWLY

1. GOVGEN SILVINO SILVERIO MARQUES, HERE JUST THREE WEEKS, IS PROCEEDING IN VERY DELIBERATE FASHION TO FILL JOBS IN HIS NEW GOVERNMENT. SOME WERE NAMED BEFORE STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED (LUANDA 0466); SEVERAL VACANCIES REMAIN TO BE FILLED. THIS GOVERNMENT DIFFERS FROM PREVIOUS ONES IN THAT NATIVE-BORN ANGOLANS (MESTIZOS ALL) ARE HEAVILY REPRESENTED (SEVERAL WERE "CANDIDATES" FOR GOVGEN). OTHERS ARE MOSTLY TECHNOCRATS, PLUS ONE PRESUMED ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT REPRESENTATIVE (NOT YET ON HAND). IN CONTRAST TO LEISURELY PACE IS OBVIOUS DYNAMISM OF NEW GOVGEN HIMSELF (SEE LUANDA 0517).

2. NEW GOVERNMENT CONSISTS OF FIVE SECRETARIES WITHOUT PORTFOLIO, AND NINE DEPARTMENTS. TWO WITHOUT-PORTFOLIOS NAMED SO FAR:
A. DR ANTONIO AUGUSTO DE ALMEIDA, SEC ECONOMY IN SANTOS E CASTRO'S CABINET. ANGOLAN NATIVE, DARK MESTIZO WITH PORTUGUESE WIFE. VERY INTELLIGENT AND HIGHLY QUALIFIED ECONOMIST WHO HAS REPRESENTED PORTUGAL AT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCES (WITH AMBASSADOR CALVET DE MAGALHAES). MILD MANNER, NOT DYNAMIC NOR DOES HE APPEAR TO HAVE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL OR AMBITIONS. NO ONE DIS-

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LIKES HIM, ALTHOUGH HE WAS CRITICIZED DURING LAST REGIME FOR

ALLOWING HIMSELF TO BE EXPLOITED BY THEN GOVGEN WHO INVARIABLY TOOK HIM ALONG FOR COSMETIC PURPOSES ON TRAVELS THROUGHOUT ANGOLA. SPEAKS ENGLISH. TOGETHER WITH ALAMBRE DOS SANTOS (EDUCATION, NOW DEPARTED) AND GUEDES DE CAMPOS (SEE BELOW) WAS ONE OF THREE "LIBERALS" IN LAST CABINET. B. DR. JOSE PINHEIRO DA SILVA, SEC EDUCATION IN PREVIOUS SILVERIO MARQUES CABINET. MESTIZO, VERY POPULAR HERE. FRIENDLY WITH AMERICANS. COMMENT: RUMOR HAS IT THAT SAVIMBI, UNITA LEADER, MAY BE ADDED TO LIST.

3. DEPARTMENTS.

A. ECONOMIC COORDINATION. NO ONE NAMED YET. ALMEIDA CONTINUES TO RUN THIS DEPARTMENT, WHICH NOW INCLUDES ALL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, E.G., FINANCES, AGRICULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT.

B. EDUCATION. ELIDIO PERES DO AMARAL. MESTIZO, LUANDA-BORN. NOT YET INSTALLED. BROTHER IS SUBSECRETARY OF ECONOMY FOR AGRICULTURE, JOAO MARIA PERES DO AMARAL. RAISED IN PORTUGAL; SPENT LAST 7 YEARS AS PROFESSOR IN AGRICULTURE FACULTY OF UNIVERSITY OF ANGOLA AT NOVA LISBOA. SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH. MODEST IN MANNER, BUT GIVES IMPRESSION OF INNER TOUGHNESS. VERY LIBERAL.

C. JUSTICE. FARINHAS RIBEIRO. PORTUGUESE-BORN, ANGOLAN WIFE. ULTRA-LIBERAL, TOLD ME HE CONCEIVES OF HIS JOB AS "BUILDING FUTURE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FOR INDEPENDENT ANGOLA." THIS IS BRAND-NEW DEPARTMENT CREATED TO ABSORB MULTIPLE JUDICIAL ACTIVITIES.

D. HEALTH AND WELFARE. URBANO FRESTA. MESTIZO BORN IN BENGUELA SLUM. SELF-MADE MAN, MEDICAL DOCTOR (CONSIDERED MEDIOCRE BY OUR MEDICAL CONTACTS). VERY AFFABLE, EXTROVERT, AND IF HE CAN HARNESS TEN PERCENT OF HIS APPARENT ENERGY TO REVAMP MEDICAL SERVICES HE WILL BE AUTOMATIC SUCCESS. (JOB HAS BEEN VACANT 18 MONTHS.) HAS STRONG POLITICAL PRETENSIONS, WILL USE JOB TO ADVANCE THEM.

E. LABOR AND SOCIAL SECURITY. AFONSO MENDES. PORTUGUESE-BORN, CAME TO ANGOLA IN 1961 TO REFORM LABOR SYSTEM MARKED BY ABUSES (FORCED LABOR, CONTRACT LABOR SWINDLES, ETC.). ESTABLISHED LABOR INSTITUTE AND THROUGH DETERMINED EFFORT OVER 9 YEARS AGAINST IMMENSE OPPOSITION MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS. AUTHOR OF NUMEROUS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPORTS URGING COMPLETE RESTRUCTURING OF SOCIAL SYSTEM TO GIVE EFFECT TO MULTIRACIALISM AND REMOVE CHIEF CAUSES OF REBEL APPEAL TO MASSES. NONE OF REPORTS ALLOWED TO BE PUBLISHED (BUT ONE LEAKED - SEE OUR A-14, DATED FEBRUARY 12, 1973). VISITED US ON PARTIAL LEADER GRANT IN 1966. SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH, OUTGOING, ATTRACTIVE PERSONALITY. GOT OFF TO VERY BAD START (AND STILL QUITE DEMORALIZED) WITH HOSTILE RECEPTION (LUANDA 0466), BUT HOPES PUBLICATION OF HIS "SECRET" REPORTS WILL CLEAR RECORD.

F. PUBLIC WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS. ENG GUEDES DUCAMPOS. PORTUGUESE-BORN. MEMBER OF LAST CABINET, CARREER CIVIL SERVANT, PLEASANT BUT COLORLESS TECHNICIAN. LIBERAL IN OLD GOVERNMENT, PROBABLY CONSERVATIVE NOW.

G. SOCIAL COMMUNICATION AND TOURISM. MAJOR MARIZ FERNANDES. NOT YET HERE. PRESUMED TO BE MFA MEMBER, WATCHDOG IN CABINET. SOCIAL COMMUNICATION IS EUPHEMISM INTER ALIA FOR LIAISON WITH REBEL MOVEMENTS.

H. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS. ENG J. ALBINO DA CUNHA. UNKNOWN TO US SO FAR.

I. TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION. AMARAL LOPES. UNKNOWN TO US YET.

4. JOB OF SECRETARY GENERAL VACANT SINCE SOARES CARNEIRO LEFT JUNE 18.
BRIGGS

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